



News Release

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100 Tolt Middle School students help salmon by planting 700 trees at Duvall's McCormick Park

While many kids were still tallying their Halloween haul in early November, 100 students from Tolt Middle School were making their way to McCormick Park in Duvall for a real, honest-to-goodness field trip. Not to a museum or a science center, but out into the field to plant 700 trees along the Snoqualmie River to help salmon.

The field trip was part of the Stilly Snohomish Fisheries Enhancement Task Force's classroom and field-based education program and was sponsored by the Snoqualmie Watershed Forum.

In the days prior to the field trip, the students learned about how trees affect erosion in Cathy Buck's seventh grade science class. They also learned about salmon and how the trees they planted will provide shade and habitat for juvenile fish on their ocean-bound migration and for adult salmon returning to their native streams to spawn.

"Experiencing what it means to protect the environment first-hand has a lasting impact beyond studying about science and salmon recovery in a book," said Ann Boyce, Executive Director of the Task Force. "Combining teaching in the classroom with actual hands-on activities in the field really brings together the science of protecting salmon with the action that is needed to recover them."

"Sponsoring this educational opportunity through the Task Force is one of the ways that we can help educate students about their watershed and impart a sense of stewardship for the environment they live in," said Bill Paulsen, Chair of the Snoqualmie Watershed Forum.

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***This release is also posted on the Snoqualmie Watershed Forum Web site, at
<http://dnr.metrokc.gov/wrias/7/Index.htm>***

The Snoqualmie Watershed Forum works to protect and restore the health of the Snoqualmie Watershed in harmony with the cultural and community needs of the Valley.

Photo Cutline: Aaron Kersten (L) and Taylor Cramer (R) were among the 100 Tolt Middle School students that planted 700 trees at McCormick Park in Duvall to help salmon.